

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Claims 1 and 3-10 remain in the application. Claims 1 and 3-10 are subject to examination. Claims 1, 3, 4, 6 and 10 have been amended. Claim 2 has been canceled.

Under the heading "Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103" on pages 2-4 of the above-identified Office Action, claims 1 and 8-10 have been rejected as being obvious by U.S. Patent No. 5,559,894 to Lubliner et al. (hereinafter Lubliner) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,259,809 to Maruo (hereinafter Maruo) under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

In view of the Examiner's statement that claims 2-7 are allowable on page 4 of the Office action, claims 1 and 10 have been amended with the features of allowable claim 2. The remaining claims were amended to be compatible with amended claim 1.

It is accordingly believed to be clear that none of the references, whether taken alone or in any combination, either show or suggest the features of claims 1 or 10. Claims 1 and 10 are, therefore, believed to be patentable over the art.

Appl. No. 09/773,247
Amdt. Dated June 10, 2004
Reply to Office Action of March 10, 2004

The dependent claims are believed to be patentable as well because they all are ultimately dependent on claim 1.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1 and 3-10 are solicited.

If an extension of time is required, petition for extension is herewith made. Any extension fee associated therewith should be charged to the Deposit Account of Lerner and Greenberg, P.A., No. 12-1099.

Please charge any other fees that might be due with respect to Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to the Deposit Account of Lerner and Greenberg, P.A., No. 12-1099.

Respectfully submitted,



For Applicant

REL:cgm

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June 10, 2004

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